

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**SENATE REVENUE AND TAXATION CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE**  
Tuesday, November 17, 2009 – 3:30 p.m. – Room 415 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Wayne L. Niederhauser, Chair  
Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Sen. Ross I. Romero  
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson  
Sen. Dennis E. Stowell

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Phil Dean, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Phalin L. Flowers, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Niederhauser called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

Chair Niederhauser read the requirements for commissioners of the Utah State Tax Commission (Tax Commission).

Committee members introduced themselves.

**2. Consideration of Proposed Appointment to the Utah State Tax Commission**

Mr. Michael Cragun introduced himself and explained his qualifications to serve as a commissioner of the Tax Commission.

Mr. Cragun responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. Maxwell Miller, representing the Utah Taxpayers Association, said he believes it is necessary for state tax commissioners to have a deep knowledge of state, local, and federal taxes upon appointment.

Ms. LuAnn Adams, Box Elder County Clerk, spoke in support of Mr. Cragun's appointment to the Tax Commission.

Ms. Pat Beckstead, Election Director, Davis County, read a statement from Steve Rawlings, Davis County Auditor, which spoke in support of Mr. Cragun's appointment to the Tax Commission.

Mr. Scott Hogensen, Utah County Chief Election Clerk, spoke in support of Mr. Cragun's appointment to the Tax Commission.

Mr. Brent Gardner, Utah Association of Counties, spoke in support of Mr. Cragun's appointment to the Tax Commission.

Sen. Curtis Bramble said that he disagrees that only attorneys are qualified enough to serve on the Tax Commission. He urged the Committee to consider the broad base of experience of any nominee for a state tax commissioner. He spoke in support of Mr. Cragun's appointment to the Tax Commission.

Ms. Sandra Andersen, private citizen, spoke in opposition to Mr. Cragun's appointment to the Tax Commission.

Ms. Pam Hendrickson, Chair, Tax Commission, spoke in support of Mr. Cragun's appointment to the Tax Commission.

Ms. Cheryl Bradford, Governor's Office, explained that the Governor had received about 20 applications for the position of Tax Commissioner.

**MOTION:** Sen. Romero moved to recommend to the Senate the confirmation of Mr. Michael Cragun as a member of the Tax Commission. The motion passed with Sen. Stephenson voting in opposition.

### **3. Other Items / Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Sen. Stowell moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Niederhauser adjourned the meeting at 5:23 p.m.